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## **New Hampshire Petroleum Fund Advisory Committee (PFAC)**

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Disbursement Board (ex-officio)

Kevin Sheppard, P.E. – Oil Fund

Disbursement Board – (ex-officio)

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## **New Hampshire Petroleum Fund Advisory Committee Background Information**

In November 1998, the Department of Environmental Services (DES) surveyed petroleum release corrective action consultants and contractors to solicit their input on the performance and management of the N.H. Petroleum Reimbursement Fund Program. As a follow up to the survey, DES hosted a Reimbursement Fund/Corrective Action Program Assessment Seminar on January 13, 1999. Representatives of 29 consulting firms, 9 corrective action contractors, the N.H. Petroleum Council, the Better Home Heat Council, and the Oil Fund Disbursement Board (Board), attended. DES reported the results of the performance survey and identified issues generally of concern to all responders, as well as a number of specific concerns identified by individual companies.

Consultants and contractors responding to the performance survey were asked to nominate individuals from their respective peer groups to serve on an advisory committee. The committee's mission would be to meet periodically to discuss options and develop recommendations for addressing key action areas. At the conclusion of the seminar, a vote was taken among the attendees to elect two consultant representatives and two contractor representatives to serve on the 1999 committee along with DES staff, industry representatives, and a member of the Board. (Subsequent year members would be chosen by consensus among the firms included in each peer group.) Prior to the first meeting, a representative of licensed professional engineers was added to the committee roster.

The N.H. Petroleum Fund Advisory Committee (PFAC) held its inaugural meeting in March 1999. As a result of PFAC recommendations, in November 1999 the Board approved a number of measures to streamline the reimbursement program claims approval process. The PFAC continues to work on issues related to corrective action cost control and corrective action approval criteria.

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